



DaVinci Pilot

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FROM THE CENTER SEAT

What a great time was had by all at the Region 2 Summit in Huntsville, AL. The newly elected Starfleet Commander, Mike Malotte, was present and he will never forget his first Region 2 Summit! Also, the newly elected Region 2 Coordinator, Danny Potts, officially took office as did the Vice Regional Coordinator, Sunnie Planthold. The hotel was not too bad. The lack of facilities, such as a pool and exercise room, and the small rooms did not detract from the revelry and family atmosphere of the summit. After all, the rooms were just for sleeping as there were things going on both Friday and Saturday evenings until well past midnight.

Connie and I loaded up the station wagon with the items we would need for the weekend. Because of the panels Connie and I were hosting there was little room left for any additional passengers. Fortunately Russell had a van and could take Joe and Tony. Lech decided to drive by himself and took Margaret.

Speaking of panels, I would be very surprised if both of Connie's panels, Costuming and Alien Foods, were not the hit of the weekend. Those in attendance were quite impressed, especially in the Costuming panel where Connie went from a human to a female Klingon to the delight of the audience. And her Alien Food Panel – wow! "Sweet Hasparat" and "Ketracel White – the Drink for Dominating Warriors" – need I say more? I am so glad that both were well attended because Connie put a lot of work in preparing both presentations!

This was the first year that no one from the DaVinci entered the Great Dalmuti tournament. The eventual winners were a father and daughter who took the title of Greater Dalmuti and Lesser Peon, respectively.

Some of the other exciting moments were when the exiting Regional Coordinator, Pete Mohny, was bombarded with a dozen or more whipped cream pies! He made a foolish bet with the members of the Region that if the Region increased its membership to a certain level he would let each ship that did increase its membership, hit him with a pie. Since there were several ships not at the Summit I suggested that Pete auction off the pie toss certificates. Pooling our meager funds, the DaVinci paid \$25 for one of the certificates. We gave it to Russell because he was shut out (and undeservedly so) in the Region awards and wished revenge!

The DaVinci was not totally shut out of the awards. We received a certificate for being the number one ship in the Region in the Overseas Coupon Project. We also were recognized for being a Region 2 chapter for 5 years. Finally, I received a certificate, for my contribution to Region 2, granting me free admission to future summits while Danny Potts is Regional Coordinator.

See what you are missing for not being a member of Starfleet?

Commodore Freddy Heller

**THE NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING
WILL BE AT 7 PM ON
THURSDAY APRIL 3rd
AT THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
COME ONE COME ALL!**

**THE NEXT DAVINCI NIGHT OUT WILL
BE AT 7 PM ON MONDAY APRIL 21st
AT HUNAN'S!
(ST FRANCIS SHOPPING CENTER)**

MORE SUMMIT THOUGHTS

Briefly, here are some thoughts from the other folks who attended the Region 2 Summit in Huntsville, AL!

Connie: "It was great to see familiar faces. Anyone who has not seen Mama Denby in action has truly missed out. I enjoyed the time there, but I couldn't help but think that OUR summit had bigger rooms and a better banquet. Many thanks to those who attended my panels from the club, including a special thanks to Tony, who helped me pack up after the Food Panel! Best quote from the summit: 'Post the dress!'"

Joe: "The most interesting thing about this summit was the posting of the dress and the change of command ceremony. Leave it to Region 2 to go with the weird route."

Russell: "Oh! It's hard to comment right now. I'm still sampling all that GREAT alien food from Connie's summit panel! Good times and great fellowship! I got to meet and talk with a lot of new people."

Tony: "The summit was a lot of fun. It was very nice the way the whole group of people just came together and had a really great time. Everyone should try to go at least one time to see what it is like."

Lech: "The regional conference was just as exciting and interesting as last year's with the additional pleasure of it being in a different city with plenty of new sights and sensations. That sense of family and belonging gets stronger every year when attending the conferences and the faces and names are beginning to be familiar. The food at the Italian buffet was wonderful and at a fabulous price as was the conference banquet dinner. I highly recommend attending the conferences just for a relaxing and pleasant warm experience."

Margaret: "I had a lot of fun and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The space and rocket center was awesome. The food was really great as was all the company."

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ANNIVERSARY PARTY

What can I say, but we had a fabulous turnout for the mission at the Space Science Center followed by a great pizza, cake, and ice cream celebration feast at my house. We had 17 DaVinci crew personnel and their guests and 8 other personnel representing 4 different Region 2 ships. We had an incredible time! It began at noon with everyone being assigned a position either on the lunar spacecraft or in Mission Control. The positions on board the lunar spacecraft and in Mission Control were identical. This way, the scenario could be stopped half way and those in the lunar spacecraft could swap positions with those in Mission Control. The scenario we choose was a return flight to the moon. It was set up to be as realistic as possible. The mission lasted approximately 2 hours and when it was over you could hear the excitement in the air. Everyone was talking about what a great experience it was. After a group picture in front of the shuttle nose cone, the group left for the Captain's house for the rest of the anniversary celebration.

When we arrived we surprised at what we found waiting for us. Connie stayed behind and watched the younger DaVinci cadets who were not old enough to partake in the shuttle mission. While we were having a blast, Connie was hard at work preparing more of her wonderful sweet Hasparat and IDIC cups as well as making a Counselor Troi Peptide cake. Once everyone had arrived, an order for 10 large pizzas was made from Little Caesar's! I reluctantly ordered two pizzas with mushrooms for those who like theirs with the horrible fungus (a Captain has to keep his crew happy). There is no doubt that Region 2 loves pizza because by the end of the celebration, only three pieces from one pizza was all that remained!

Once everyone had their fill of pizza, the Peptide cake was brought into the room. The cake had lettering wishing the DaVinci a happy 7th anniversary and our son, Travis, a happy 13th birthday. We all sang happy birthday to Travis, who by the end of the song was crawling under the table from embarrassment. The ice cream was brought out for those who like their cake alamode! A BIG Bajoran thanks to Lech and Margaret who brought the unexpected treats! And, an even BIGGER Bajoran thanks to all the folks who attended and made our 7th anniversary even more memorable.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

I had a great time at the Region 2 Summit. It was a great opportunity to meet people and spend time with friends. The Region was referred to several times as a family and after spending the weekend with these people, I can begin to understand why. A meeting like this is a great chance to exchange ideas. One way that was accomplished was with panels.

The Charity Auction was a big success. This year the auction was held separate from the banquet. Many items were sold such as pewter ships, autographed pictures, and hard to find books and memorabilia. The item that went for the most money was a first season Voyager cast photograph with each of the cast signatures. Truly a rare find since the Voyager cast does not make many appearances at conventions. It was a bargain for only \$300. By the closing of the summit, over \$1500.00 had been raised for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

The DaVinci also won The OCP award with an amount of \$13,502.38. This has been the second year that I know of, for the DaVinci to walk away with this award. I have heard that there are a couple of other ships that will be trying to take it next year. Let's keep up the good work.

LT Tony Fleming

ATTENTION ON BOARD!

A Starfleet Marine unit has been activated on board the USS DaVinci! All crew personnel are encouraged to join. My name is LT Frazier L. Smith, and I have been appointed as Officer in Charge (OIC) of the unit. The Marine unit is the 678th Special Operations Marine Strike Group (MSG). If anyone has a question about the Marines you can contact me at murock44@yahoo.com or you can see me at DaVinci meeting. The Marines will hold a meeting on the same night as the DaVinci. Hope to see you there!

LT Frazier Smith

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SCI FI BUZZ

This just in from SciFi.com for you Battlestar Galactica fans!

SCI FI has signed director Michael Rymer (Queen of the Damned) and the stars Edward James Olmos (Stand and Deliver Oscar nominee, Miami Vice Golden Globe winner), Mary McDonnell (two-time Oscar nominee for Passion Fish and Dances with Wolves), Jamie Bamber (HBO's Band of Brothers) and Katee Sackhoff (Halloween: Resurrection) for the new four-hour original miniseries Battlestar Galactica. Production begins in Vancouver in March. Battlestar Galactica will air exclusively on SciFi in late 2003.

The beloved Battlestar gets a modern twist when SCI FI re-imagines the groundbreaking series in which "a ragtag fugitive fleet" of the last remnants of humanity searches for its true home. Fleeing the mechanoid Cylon race responsible for the slaughter of their human colonies, the Battlestar Galactica survivors must meet a new set of challenges in order to escape pursuers hellbent on human extinction. This intriguing take on a classic creates an epic miniseries with action, adventure and family drama.

British actor Bamber will play Apollo, a role originated in the classic TV series by Richard Hatch. Oregon native Sackhoff will play a female Starbuck; the character, a man in the classic series, was played by Dirk Benedict.

Produced exclusively for SCI FI, Battlestar Galactica is written by Ronald D. Moore (Roswell, Mission: Impossible II, Star Trek: First Contact) with David Eick (American Gothic, Hercules: The Legendary Journeys) and Moore serving as executive producers.

ACCOLADES

Thanks to Roger who donated another 1000+ tabs for the Ronald McDonald House!

Thanks to Lisa who donated another box of stamps for the Starfleet Stampede program.

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WELCOME ABOARD!

Welcome aboard to the following crew personnel who have recently joined or renewed their membership in the DaVinci (D) or Starfleet (S):

Mike Walker (D)
Jean Walker (D)
Hannah Walker (D)
Maxwell Walker (D)
Gracie Walker (D)
Ivy Walker (D)
Fred Kemp (D) (S)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Many happy returns to the following DaVinci personnel and Star Trek celebrities and events that are celebrating birthdays or anniversaries in April!

Grace Lee Whitney (Yeoman Janice Rand)	1 st
CADET Courtney Ainsworth	9 th
CRMN Rosemarie Hutson	9 th
First Man in Space (Yuri Gagarin 1961)	12 th
Michael Ansara (Kang)	15 th
CADET Mariaelena Fleming	18 th
Herman Zimmerman (Set Designer)	19 th
George Takei (CPT Hikaru Sulu)	20 th
Spice Williams (Vixis)	26 th
Kate Mulgrew (CPT Kathryn Janeway)	29 th

NIGHT OUT LOCATIONS

At the Christmas party, we selected the restaurants for the 2003 DaVinci Night Out. Several locations were chosen that we have never been to before. It looks like a pretty good year! And so, without further ado, here are the 2003 Night Out locations:

May:	Olive Garden (At Last!)
June:	El Vaquero
July:	Texas Steakhouse
August:	Primo's Italian Buffet
September:	Golden Corral
October:	Cheddars
November:	Longhorn Steakhouse

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Opening Balance	250.99
Anniversary Party Pizza	53.00
Closing Balance	197.99

CPT Connie Heller

DaVINCI STAFF ROSTER

Commanding Officer	Freddy Heller	562-8735
Executive Officer	Joe Perry	327-5888
Finance	Connie Heller	562-8735
Community Service	Tony Fleming	568-6529
Publications	Freddy Heller	562-8735
Science Officer	Lech Mazur	596-9542
Counselor	Russell Ruhland	855-4146
Morale	VACANT	
Medical	VACANT	
Engineering Officer	VACANT	
Communications	Gisela Stephens	689-4266
Quartermaster	Randy Dunn	291-0150
Security	Roger Wright	687-8052
Marine OIC	Fraizer Smith	298-5074
Cadet Corps Commander	VACANT	
Master Chief Petty Officer	VACANT	

FINALLY...

Many of you do not know when your membership in the DaVinci is due for renewal. This is due to the fact that most of the newsletters now go out via e-mail. If you get your newsletter the old fashioned way, your expiration date is on the address label. Those going via the Internet have no address label so to speak. So, to help those folks out who get the electronic version of the Pilot, here are your expiration dates for the DaVinci and Starfleet:

	<u>DaVinci</u>	<u>Starfleet</u>
Randy Dunn	Nov 03	Feb 03
Karen Ferris	Sep 03	May 03
Rose Hutson	Sep 03	
Fred Kemp	Mar 04	Mar 04
Todd Kes	Sep 03	
Lesh Mazur	Jul 03	Nov 03
Joe Perry	Jul 03	Nov 03
Karen Pynenburg	Jul 03	May 03

Russell Ruhland	Aug 03	Aug 03
Frazier Smith	Feb 04	Mar 03
Michael Walker	Mar 04	Mar 04
Roger Wright	Mar 04	Jan 04

RM HOUSE NEEDED ITEMS

Although The Ronald McDonald House needs quite a variety of items, the items needed most are listed below. Pick something from the list and bring it with you to each meeting. This is strictly voluntary. Thanks!

Non-Food Items

Trash Bags (XS and XL)
Carpet Cleaner
Spray Air Freshener
Styrofoam Cups (L)
Laundry Detergent
Ziploc Bags
Paper Plates

Miscellaneous Items

Copier Paper
Clasp Envelopes
Light Bulbs
Avery Labels 5160
White-Out Pens
Staplers

Food Items

Sugar
Bags of Hard Candy
Snack Foods
Non-Dairy Creamer

NOTE: Right now, they do not need canned goods, but always need perishable items such as bread, meats, cheese slices, fresh fruit, and snack foods. Gift certificates to local grocery stores, Sam's Club, Wal-Mart, and K Mart are also welcomed.

At the Edge of the Federation

For those of you who came in late, the following is a novella written by our very own CRMN Todd Kes. Hope you enjoy reading it.

Part XIX

The time for the meeting arrived, and Captain Morgan had done his best to create a casual environment. This was to be a meeting where he wanted their ideas and discussion, not blind obedience. As a result, the regular chairs around the table were casually arranged, and there was a platter of snacks on the table.

As people arrived, they began to move around, casually talking to one another. They were comparing the crew lists Captain Morgan had selected, and a few changes were being made to the

lists based on their own experiences with the people there.

When Captain Morgan arrived, everyone there understood that the meeting had started, and arranged themselves around the table, and waited for Captain Morgan to sit down first at the head of the table. After Captain Morgan sat down, they sat down as well, and waited for his invitation to begin.

"I assume all of you have read the proposed crew listing, and do any of you have any suggestions or changes they would like to make?"

"Captain, I assume you picked all of these people because they are not sitting well with Starfleet Command?"

"What makes you say that Lieutenant?"

"Because I know three of the people on this list, and they were among some of the wildest partiers in Starfleet Academy. Call it a hunch, but I don't think they've changed a bit."

"But do you approve of them?"

"They were good all right, I will admit that. But you're talking about putting Carla Haskins in charge of Engineering!"

"Can she handle it?"

"Captain, let me put it this way. One Friday night, she goes out partying that weekend and the rest of us are studying for an Engineering final on Monday. We don't see her at all that entire weekend, and on Monday morning, we are getting worried. But ten minutes before class starts, she shows up in uniform in the classroom, with one of the biggest grins on her face. One of the women sitting next to me says she saw Carla come in that morning, and she swears that Carla's outfit was a fire hazard because it had so much alcohol all over it.

"So Carla shows up, slouches back in her seat, and seems to zone out when the instructor hands out the tests. When the instructor tells us to start, she looks over her test, and starts going through it page by page, circling answers and writing stuff down. She finishes half an hour later, and the entire class is staring at her in shock. She hands the instructor her paper test, and leaves the classroom grinning. On the way out, she blows a kiss to everyone in there."

"So how come she is still in Starfleet, after doing something like that?"

"Because up until that day, nobody had ever gotten a perfect score on one of Starfleet's Engineering exams. I mean, normally they have to curve them, but she got a perfect score!"

"So she knows what she's doing, when she's around?"

"Well, yes. I have to admit, that in a pinch, I'd want her around. But as far as keeping track of her on a day to day business, it'd be a nightmare!"

"How do you feel about her taking on the responsibility as Chief Engineer?"

"Since she'd be on a ship, she couldn't go anywhere. So I have to admit, she would do a good job."

"Good. Do you have any other comments?"

"Compared to Carla Haskins, the others are some of the best-behaved people in Starfleet. If she is put in charge as Chief Engineer, the others will be no problem at all."

"Very well then. Engineering is settled. How about the other sections," said Captain Morgan, as he turned to the other officers?

Several other officers were named, each with their own quirks, and a few changes were made to the command structure of the new ship being requested. The various quirks ranged from changing the simulations around, to pulling pranks on instructors who were known for their devotion to Federation protocol, to adding food coloring to various meals to make them look different. But all in all, the other officers were able to be fit in to their slots with a minimum of change.

After that was done, Captain Morgan turned to the main display screen, and told them that the message came straight from Starfleet Command. The senior staff watched the message in silence, occasionally taking down a few notes as they listened. Afterwards, Captain Morgan laid the floor open for discussion.

"Captain, as senior medical officer, I can assure you that these beings are not human."

"True, Doctor Armstrong. But I would like everyone here to remember that this message is based on data that is over five months old. As far as we knew back then, there was a group of people who were stealing ships and shuttles. So along those lines, Starfleet sent us the most relevant data. The point I wanted to raise is this; do we pursue the extremist group, or do we continue after the slavers?"

"Captain, as an engineer, I would say that an extremist group is like a malfunctioning light, while the slavers are a warp core malfunction. The slavers should be our first priority, and any

extremists can be dealt with later."

"As Chief Tactical Officer, I would agree."

"I agree too," said Doctor Armstrong.

The others agreed with the policy of dealing with the slavers first and dealing with the extremist group later. Turning to Commander Verrin, Captain Morgan asked her, "Do you agree with them as well?"

"Yes Captain, I do."

"Then it is agreed, we will continue after the slavers, and worry about the extremist group later. Is there anything else any of you wish to talk about?"

"How about two days of shore leave at the Starbase?"

"Sounds good. Maybe we can get another Excellon - Starbase 121 competition going again. I'll ask Commander Wilson if we can."

Turning to his communications console, Captain Morgan called Commander Wilson's office. "Commander, this is Captain Morgan. I was wondering if we could have some shore leave at your facility."

"Be glad to Captain. Your ship and crew are like heroes it seems around here, and the local town has wanted to throw a party for you and your crew. I assume you'll be down here for two days at least, to allow your crew to have a wonderful time?"

"Two days is what we figured also. You can expect the first set of shuttles down at 1700; the next one will land at 1730, being down every half hour and up every fifteen minutes before and after the hour. The shuttles will continue like that until 0800 tomorrow morning. Sounds good?"

"Sounds good. I'll arrange for my security people to provide busses and other transportation into town, and they'll have others to help your people while in town. Maybe you'll enjoy yourself too this time?"

The last bit was done with a little smile, as Captain Morgan hardly seemed to take leave at all. Whenever he did go down to a planet, it was always to meet with the people down there to go over something that was important to the Excellon's mission of preserving the peace. Several officers smiled behind Captain Morgan's back, knowing that the Commander on the planet was emotionally Captain Morgan's equal, being in command of an entire base as Captain Morgan was in command of an entire ship.

Captain Morgan smiled back and said, "If I get some free time, I might be able to come down there. But with the paperwork that can only be done here, I wouldn't count on it."

Behind Captain Morgan's back though, Commander Verrin signaled to the others to meet her in her quarters after the meeting was over. Commander Wilson saw them whispering, but gave no clue of it to Captain Morgan. Commander Wilson continued talking, "Okay Captain, but assuming you did manage to get free, are there any games you prefer?"

"Assuming I get free, volleyball was one I enjoyed. But since I am requesting another ship out here to help free us to look for the base, don't count on it."

"Well, Captain, good luck in getting your request filled. Lately, it seems as though I am on the short list of getting supplies. Maybe some bean counter noticed my request for the antimatter plant and the small shipyard, and started wondering. Fortunately, the shipyard is due in a couple days, so that will be taken care of. After that, I might be a little pressed to get extra supplies through official channels."

"I'm sure you'll do fine Commander."

"See you later Captain, Starbase 121 signing off."

With that, Captain Morgan turned back to his senior staff, and told them to have their departments ready for the shore leave, and inform them of the celebration in town that night. Seeing as there was nothing further to discuss, the meeting was concluded, and all the senior staff left the room, except for Commander Verrin.

"If I may speak freely Captain?"

"Feel free to."

"Paul, you've been on board the ship for too long. You need to get down to a planet for something other than fact-finding, and now would be a good time."

"You know as well as I do that there is still a lot of paperwork to be done before I can do that."

"Then do it tomorrow. How much of it can wait until we go back into space, escorting the Amemnon?"

"I take it that you are not going to give up until I agree to go down and enjoy myself?"

Susan Verrin just smiled at that. "You might say that. How about if I schedule a volleyball game tonight, between the Excellon's command crew and the Starbase's senior personnel?"

"All right then. I'll be ready in fifteen minutes."

"Oh Captain, just bring your outfit with you. We can change down on the planet in the gym there."

"I'll have a bag packed in eight minutes. See you in the shuttle bay in a few minutes?"

"How about at 1740 Captain? That will give us both a chance to clear up any paperwork that needs to be done by tonight. Is that good?"

"That's good for me. See you then."

Commander Verrin managed to conceal her smile as she left the meeting room, and made it to her room, where the rest of the senior staff was waiting.

"Sorry I took so long, but I was able to convince him to go down to the planet tonight for a volleyball game. Let's get Commander Wilson on a comm line, so we can arrange everything."

The communications was set up, and they set a game for 1800 hours, along with a location for it as well. The gym was near the beach, so the place was fully equipped to handle a variety of outfits and activities.

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